

The Ploughman.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, NOV. 10, 1877.

The election in Massachusetts, passed off very quietly on Tuesday, Nov. 6, and resulted in the re-election of Governor Rice, by a plurality of about 17,000. All the State officers of last year were re-elected.

The first snow is being chronicled on every side of us, and it is put down for Boston and vicinity as occurring on the forenoon of Tuesday. It was a very trifling affair, but sufficiently suggestive.

A bill has been introduced in Congress, abolishing the old office of Steamboat Inspectors and placing the administration of the steamboat law in the hands of revised officers of the Navy.

California proposes to regulate on China for raising wheat by going into the raising of tea itself. That would be only a fair rivalry, in which the laws of trade may be left to take care of the results.

The amendment offered by Congressman Cox to the resolution repealing the Resumption law proposes to pay fifty-seven cents in gold for a greenback dollar on the first of January, 1878, and one-half a cent more per dollar every six months, until legal tender reaches par in 1881. It is believed that the Senate will repeat the clause fixing the date for resumption, but not much more.

CONGRESS.

The Senate met Tuesday and adjourned over to Thursday. Scarcely anything, however, was done in the course of the Nations' Al Legislator. In the House there has been much discussion of a tax. The opponents of the specific resumption bill have managed to take their toll of what is known as "the morning star," and it may be to make the special effect of each day, which it is to be until next Tuesday, when a final vote has been entered. So that we shall not have to wait in order to know whether, so far as the popular branch of Congress is concerned, resumption is to be obstructed or not. The House has passed the bill for the remonetization of the old silver dollar, making it legal tender for the payment of all debts, public and private. The triumphant majority profess to believe that it will succeed in passing through the Senate, and that it will be signed by the President.

THE SILVER BILL.

The Silver bill, so called, has passed the House of Representatives by a positive majority. It provides for the resumption of silver according to the old statute of 1837, which shall then be legal tender, at the nominal value of the coins so issued, for all debts, public and private, except where otherwise specified by contract. Any owner of silver may be compelled to coin it into dollars. The bill means that all the silver coined in the United States must be coined in the same terms as the old silver dollar. It is of course understood universally that this bill means a depreciated currency. The advocates of the bill insist that it will have the effect of putting silver up to par with gold, but that is mere assertion. The owners of vastly productive silver mines in this country have worked personally for the success of this measure, and it is well known that we shall have all the silver coined in us from Germany that we shall care to mint, for which we shall be called on to exchange gold. It is sixteen times the trouble to handle silver that it is gold, and the customs would be paid in that coin instead of gold.

The law is, that the cheaper currency always drives the dearer out of the country. The adjustment of private debts in silver is not the question, as much as the payment of the principal and interest of the public debt in that coin.

Being a direct result of the financial and having a fluctuating value of course, the value of the Government bonds would shrink and the bond inevitably be returned upon the holder.

The silver men regard this with perfect complaisance, answering that it would be better if the debt was wholly owned by home. But they do not tell us what it is to be exchanged for. If this measure were to become a law, then there would be three new forms of money: gold, greenbacks and silver. It could not fail to make confusion worse confounded. No commercial country ever prospered that refused to recognize some unit of value. It is as necessary as a yard stick just four feet long, and a bushel that holds just four pecks.

OUT OF WORK.

While the times have driven so many to the very verge of despair, because of their inability to procure work for their support, there is one class that need never fear the lack of something to do. It is the farming class. The man who is on a farm, large or small, is guaranteed enough work to keep him occupied continually. There is not a day when he cannot turn his hand to something profitably. If industry is the source of happiness, then their orbits run very closely together. The student of the heavens finds nothing to night; the seafarer, nothing to day; the philosopher, the deep of silent instruction. Those who live in the country have the landscape of the heavens to enjoy without stint, and may doubt their pleasures by taking advantage of their opportunity. With sheepards began all knowledge of astronomy.

THE EASTERN WAR.

The Russian commanders—for the trouble is there are too many of them—have been making unusual efforts to retrieve their ill-luck during the peace season and get in an advantageous position. They have taken a position on the river of Plevna, at Dubovik, where they have proceeded to entrench and where they can also command the road to Sofia and the bridge across the Vid River. The precarious situation of Osman Pasha, the Russian commander-in-chief, is now a matter of common knowledge.

The Russians have made a bold dash into the interior of the Turkish provinces and Kars and Erzurum are a way to be cut off from the ports on the Black Sea whence they derive their sustenance and succor.

Muktar Pasha is the Turkish commander at Karak and his condition seems to be growing very much like that of Osman Pasha at Plevna. On the part of the Russians the game is more one of strategy than of battles, and if they can hold out long enough the grip must prove fatal.

It is almost an impossibility that they can be an understanding between Turkish commanders inside and outside the Plevna lines, by which a simultaneous and victorious assault may be made on the Russians.

In Asia Minor, a fresh Russian army is moving up from the south, and is threatening to move into the interior of the Turkish provinces and Kars and Erzurum are a way to be cut off from the ports on the Black Sea whence they derive their sustenance and succor.

The Foreign Affairs Committee at Paris has had the matter repeatedly before it for consideration, and it has been able and urgently advocated. It appears that there is a general desire on the part of the government to have its agent in the land.

Mr. Moody, the evangelist, has accepted invitation to labor at Portland, Me., this winter.

Mr. Dana, editor of the New York Sun, has had his chief editor at Glen Cove, L. I., robust heavily.

He has escaped from a feverish condition in the spring, which would directly menace Constantine and thus interest the powers of other European powers in the probable result. Great events not improbably hang on what is now being done by the Russian armies.

THE PARIS EXPOSITION.

Congress seems to be making rapid headway in regard to the proper representation of this country at the approaching international exposition of industry, manufactures, art and agriculture at Paris. The Foreign Affairs Committee has had the matter repeatedly before it for consideration, and it has been able and urgently advocated. It appears that there is a general desire on the part of the government to have its agent in the land.

The condition of Senator Blaine is far from satisfactory to his friends, who apprehend him to be either ill or lame, or both.

Some six hundred witnesses have testified before the Fisheries Commission at Halifax, whose evidence is extremely contradictory.

It looks as if the result of the recent Letter Carriers' Convention, at Washington, would be an inglorious defeat.

The Ploughman and the other at Red Bluff

that the Vienna troubles will only be repeated.

But that need not, and should not. There are experts and competent men enough in the country who would gladly serve as agents and commissioners, without expecting to be paid as a good many others would who never cease to go to the Paris Exposition, for no one has higher aims before them than merely to make a pleasure trip lasting several months to the French capital. It is in the whole country that it can be served, in its largest interests and its entire character. The plan should not suffer to fall through simply because the right kind of agents are able to overlook no inferior ones taken in their stead, or because others are co-operative in an industrial cause for the co-operation with France in this affair.

The Columbus Avenue cars in this city exceed the envy of the other cars, they are elegant. Mr. Bayard Taylor is still lecturing on his course, sometimes every day, and the audience is great. He is in bright spirits of mind, and is indeed pleasant to be out-of-doors. And this is the Indian Summer. Some years do not suit us all.

ABERYARD CHARTERS.—The hospitals of various kinds have been delivered to parsons of charity in New York come under the severest reservation of the State Board of Charities, for the abuses which are found to be practiced in them hospitals for the benefit of the inmates, the almshouse, the infirmary, the lunatic asylum, and the like.

The New R. I. Manufacturing Company will shortly adjust its affairs and go on with business again.

The depositors in the Bridgewater Savings Bank are expected to realize not less than seventy-five per cent.

The regular reports to relatives on China for raising wheat by going into the raising of tea itself. That would be only a fair rivalry, in which the laws of trade may be left to take care of the results.

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THE GENERAL HEALTH.

Hegione has done a great deal for the steady elevation of the standard of the public health in the last score of years. The more intelligent views concerning nutrition and diet. In a recent article in the Medical Record we find this subject treated in a most interesting and highly suggestive manner. It makes the assertion that nervous diseases, which in their different forms of manifestation have been the bane of the general health and sanity, have of late years shown unmistakable signs of a tendency to disappear. There are certain well ascertained causes for this, among which the writer of the essay alluded to the effects of a better food, and the like.

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The oldest man in Roxbury, Mass., died last week, at the venerable age of ninety. She was a lady.

The numbers of superior silver are having been taken from a Newark pottery since this spring.

NEW ENGLAND EARTHQUAKE.—Sunday morning at a shock of an earthquake passed West to East. It was so faintly felt, and even the windows were rattled, that it was not noticed.

The shock included the range of the Hudson River, from Albany to New York.

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The Poet's Corner.

THE SUMMER LAND.

Immortal signs o'er von fair summer land,
Yet trophies were garnered from work's
aged scythe.

The chase hath betrayed an omnipotent hand,
And the master-mind guiding to mortals un-

seen.

Their beauty perennial swells to all hearts,

No bright there, no sorrow, no tears finds a

pale;

These soft light falls sweetly, so shadow im-

partless;

For all things are light when God hides not

His face.

No death, - Oh what rapture - no death reveals

himself;

Behold him! Ah, no; never; he hath not been

Made;

Life exultant, joyous, earnest, as dear

To the Gods as to man, in those realms over-

there.

I hold thee, thou Pandion; Heavens thy name,

And my heart stretches out to thy mansions of

bliss;

Well pleased to exchange life's poor flickering

flame;

For the light of that land, from the darkness

of life;

Can man hope for rest health thy skies so

sere?

May he dwell on high with the seraphim? I

Engulfed within hails the prophecy been,

It will all be fulfilled in the bright summer

land;

And the pulses which quiver with parting on

the pulse;

To peace shall be stillness when we grasp hands

again,

And the sorrow-hued head shall be lifted to

smile;

With the music of greeting the loved ones

again.

Ladies' Department

Written expressly for the Massachusetts Ploughman.

DAVID AND I.

AN ORIGINAL STORY.

BY CORPORAL SQUID.

Author of "A Trip Southward," "Nantucket Sketches," "Corporal Squid on the Farm," etc.

Continued from page 1.

CHAPTER VIII.

After a week at New York, we returned home by the way of the Hudson River, and the Western—now Boston & Albany—Railroad. I should have enjoyed the trip up the river exceedingly, but it need not be said, that the sailing was very bad, and we approached the Highlands, and I must say I never heard such music before. I stood it very well, though, till it began to affect my nerves, and then I had to leave.

David, if the judgment day was really coming, "I guess," he replied quite calmly;

"This conversation roused my curiosity, and I asked him, "What's your secret?"

"That's a secret," said David, "I guess he's a little deaf. They have things here, don't they, though? That's a real benefit to look at. I wonder how we get it."

"Is it true, as I hear, that you suppose we can sleep on Mary?"

I did not reply to all of David's questions, that night after we had dined, but I told him about his loose and undignified way of talking, especially before strangers, culling as instances of a proper want of self-respect, several of his own speech, and of his mannerisms, New York, especially taking the part of a showman at the museum, and also the part he had only that day taken on board the boat, who played the rôle of a king.

I told him the story of the king, and he made me feel mortified, and that it drew attention to us in a way that was exceedingly unpleasant for me, and I was very much annoyed.

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